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Chamber of Commerce of
Pittsburgh

Addresses and
proceedings at the...

[Pittsburgh]

[1916]

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Chamber of Commerce
of Pittsburgh



Addresses
and Proceedings

AT THE

Celebration of Fortieth Anniversary of
Incorporation and Corner Stone
Laying Ceremony, Chamber
of Commerce Building

1876-1916



July 8th, 1916

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PITTSBURGH

Chamber of Commerce
of Pittsburgh



Addresses
and Proceedings

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July 8th, 1916

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Luncheon, Parade and Corner Stone Laying Ceremony

IN celebration of the 40th anniversary of the incorporation of the Chamber of Commerce and the laying of the corner stone of the new Chamber of Commerce Building at Smithfield Street and Seventh Avenue, a luncheon was held at the Fort Pitt Hotel, Saturday, July 8th, 1916, attended by more than 300 members of the Chamber and their friends.

The arrangements were under the general direction of the Committee on New Quarters, comprising William H. Stevenson, Chairman, General Albert J. Logan and William M. Furey; William H. Davis was appointed chief marshal of the parade, and Honorable Robert Garland, President, was Chairman of the joint functions.

At the luncheon addresses were delivered by Chairman Robert Garland, S. S. Marvin, one of the original signers to the petition for the Chamber's Charter, and past presidents English, Babcock, Stevenson and Black. Chairman Garland read a telegram of regret from former President John Bindley, who had expected to be present but who was unavoidably detained in New York, and a telegram from former President, General Albert J. Logan, whose absence on the Mexican Border with the National Guard prevented his attendance. The Chairman also read a cablegram from former Mayor George W. Guthrie, Ambassador to Japan (in Tokio), and a communication from Andrew Carnegie, both of whom are honorary members of the Chamber.

Selections of music by Pittsburgh composers were rendered by Nirella's Band during the luncheon, after which all present, headed by the Band, proceeded to the site of the new building by way of Penn Avenue, to Sandusky Street, to Sixth Avenue, to Wood Street, to Fifth Avenue, to Smithfield Street and Seventh Avenue.

On arriving at the site the invocation was offered by Dr. S. B. McCormick and addresses delivered by President Garland, Hon. George T. Oliver, Edward F. Trefz of the Cham-

ber of Commerce of the United States of America, and S. S. Marvin.

The laying of the corner stone was performed by George Hogg, a member of the Chamber, and the box containing records and relics, after being sealed, was placed in position by William H. Stevenson, Chairman of the New Quarters Committee. The contents of the box were:

Bible.

Copy of the Charter granted in 1876.

Present By-Laws of Chamber.

Annual Report of Chamber.

Membership list.

Souvenir book giving brief history of Chamber during its 40 years of existence.

Map of Pittsburgh.

Photographs of Pittsburgh and statistical pamphlets.

Newspapers.

Municipal Hand Book giving roster of City Officials.

Flag of the United States, the State of Pennsylvania, and the City of Pittsburgh.

Current coins of the United States.

Notwithstanding the high July temperature, all those who attended the luncheon, with very few exceptions, continued on to the close of the ceremonies, largely augmented by an interested public, and the proceedings closed with the playing of America by the Band.

Especial appreciation was expressed for the courtesy of the Pittsburgh newspapers in the wide publicity which had been given and which contributed largely to the success of the occasion.

ROBERT GARLAND RECALLS HISTORY.

President of Chamber of Commerce Tells of Assistance Given to Worthy Objects.

In his address at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon at the Fort Pitt Hotel, President Robert Garland said in part:

It will be our privilege today to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the incorporation of the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh, and to witness the laying of the corner stone in the new building which will be our home for many years to come.

When on July 8, 1876, the nation's centennial year, 47 of our leading business men and firms banded together and presented a signed petition to the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, attaching thereto a list of 337 additional names, the charter of organization was requested "for the purpose of protecting, fostering and developing manufacturing and business interests of Allegheny county."

For 40 years the Chamber has worked consistently and faithfully along these lines, and its many notable achievements, civic and commercial, are set forth in detail in the souvenir program gotten out for this occasion.

It might not be out of place, however, to state that the Chamber did not always confine its field of usefulness to the limits of the "State of Allegheny."

Aided in Many Relief Movements.

During the administration of John F. Dravo, 1884-1886, we find that \$5,458 was raised by the Chamber for the Charleston earthquake relief fund.

Under William E. Schmertz, 1887-1891, the Chamber organized a relief committee for the Johnstown flood disaster, and \$750,000 was collected and distributed by the committee.

During John Bindley's administration, 1896-1901, \$56,673 was raised by the Chamber for the Galveston relief.

Under H. D. W. English, 1906-1907, \$240,000 was raised for the San Francisco earthquake relief fund.

Under William H. Stevenson's regime the committee on Ohio flood relief raised and distributed the sum of \$89,000 to sufferers among our neighbors of the Ohio valley.

President Presents S. S. Marvin.

I now present to you the only survivor of the petitioners who 40 years ago today received from the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County the charter of incorporation of the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh.

It might be said of this old-time Pittsburgher in the words of

Oliver Wendell Holmes "that to be 70 years young is sometimes far more cheerful and hopeful than to be 40 years old."

His name has been a household word in our city for many years. I present to you S. S. Marvin.

PITTSBURGH PURVEYOR TO WORLD, SAYS S. S. MARVIN.

At the Chamber of Commerce luncheon S. S. Marvin spoke as follows:

When I came to Pittsburgh the first time in 1863, all the factories, iron and glass works were closed, also the warehouses and stores. Every able bodied man was out helping to dig trenches to keep Lee's army from destroying the homes and firesides of our peace-loving city. This, the Civil War, was the beginning of a new era for Pittsburgh. Our foundries were called upon for every variety of war munitions, guns and gun carriages.

This brings me to the organization of the Chamber of Commerce 40 years ago. That was a live bunch of men—Liberty street merchants in the lead—who, following the wisdom of Solomon, determined to touch elbows in the development of the trade, commerce and business of Pittsburgh, and Liberty street still leads. I believe in many ways it was a small body, but it did things. Time would fail me were I to undertake to tell you of its remarkable history. Assuredly a great work—but I cannot forget allusion to the work of the Chamber in the establishment of the high school system of Pittsburgh. It was certainly instrumental after the most persistent and indefatigable efforts in developing the most splendid educational organization in America, and the boys whose interests they looked after 40 years ago are now the most enthusiastic workers for further enlargement and protection of that bulwark of enlightenment and liberty—the public school system.

The Chamber took rank from its inception with similar organizations throughout America, and today proudly leads in its work of maintaining the manufacturing supremacy of a city whose wage payment of \$1,000,000 a day, truly stamps it as the workshop of the world.

I would fail in my effort to drive home to you the unique location of Pittsburgh if I did not point out our central position for manufacturing and distribution of everything required by man. This is the center of three-fourths of the entire population of our country. The Atlantic Ocean on the east, the Mississippi on the west, the Great Lakes to the north and to the Virginia line on the south contains 75,000,000 of our people with Pittsburgh in the center.

Then the present great war, most terrible to contemplate! Gentlemen, do you realize that every man killed in battle relieves us of

one competitor for world wide distribution of our wares? We, a nation of 100,000,000, trading principally among ourselves, should become the purveyors to more than 1,500,000,000 beyond our borders. You may say Pittsburgh lacks facilities. Not so, if you properly show our great carriers the necessity of the case. Our fellow townsman, Samuel Rea, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, the man who tunneled the Hudson and erected a lasting monument to his engineering skill in New York, stands ready today to give all the facilities required if you can convince him it will pay his company so to do. Then our Col. Schoonmaker, the enterprising South Side promoter, will not be found at the end of the column. Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce will you now step forward to claim your own!

May I be pardoned for adding its wonderful work and influence in bringing into existence an exposition—the uniqueness of which has challenged the admiration of exposition workers throughout the world.

Nor should I fail to note that on the occasion of the memorable Johnstown flood the Chamber led in the movement which at noon on Saturday in nine minutes secured \$50,000 in money in Old City Hall, while many of its members were at the same time loading on Liberty avenue trains of provisions for the stricken district and on Sunday morning were supplying the sufferers the first relief to arrive from any quarter.

Moreover, of the greatest entertainment ever given the Grand Army of the Republic in 1894, when under the direction of the Chamber about \$100,000 was secured to entertain the Boys in Blue, and concerning which the records show \$12,000 was returned to the donors.

And the victory of the Chamber in 1895, in Boston, over all other cities in winning the Triennial Conclave of the Knights Templar in 1898—one of the greatest processions ever seen in Pittsburgh. And just here I might also add that in the dedication of the present courthouse and the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the county, the Chamber of Commerce furnished the finance committee, which secured the money to meet the cost of that three days' celebration—when more people crowded the city than was ever before known.

One of the epochs in the history of this remarkable organization also worthy of mention I also recall when the chairman of the membership committee suggested that as the rolls contained the names of hundreds of members in arrears for dues and who did not attend that they be stricken from the records, the initiation fee doubled to \$20 and a campaign inaugurated for new members. The suggestion took the breath from some of the members, but the drastic change was ordered and approximately 500 new members were added. That year the treasury of the Chamber showed the largest surplus ever accumulated.

ADDRESS BY H. D. W. ENGLISH,
President of the Chamber of Commerce, 1907 and 1908,

The Leading Subjects Treated in 1907-08.

Revision of the Constitution and By-Laws in 1907. The beginning of a fund for a new Chamber of Commerce Building—total \$23,000.

Relief Fund raised for San Francisco Earthquake sufferers under supervision of the Chamber in 1907—\$240,000.

The consolidation of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association with the Chamber in 1907, bringing in that splendid organization of young business men.

Bureau of Smoke Abatement in the city created by an ordinance proposed by a Committee of Engineers and Manufacturers, and the Smoke Inspector for the city selected by this Committee appointed by the Mayor in 1907.

For the first time in the history of the Chamber in 1907, standing committees on Housing and Municipal Sanitation were made a part of the working force of the Chamber. Ordinances and laws proposed at the instance of these Committees enacted, thus recognizing that a city to be great commercially must be great civically. This brought a special letter of commendation from the then President of the United States—Mr. Roosevelt.

In 1907 and 1908, through a propaganda arranged by the Chamber of Commerce and speeches by the Hon. Gifford Pinchot, head of the Bureau of Forestry, the late Prof. J. A. Holmes of the U. S. Geological Survey, and the Hon. Wm. Hall, of the U. S. Appalachian Investigation Bureau, the whole question of conservation of natural resources and devastating floods and flood prevention was opened up. This also received the public commendation of the President of the United States. Out of this agitation came the formation of the present excellent and virile force known as the Pittsburgh Flood Commission. The Commission remains about the same in personnel as when appointed. It has given eight years of the most effective service. Its report is now a text book on floods and their prevention in states suffering from these devastating recurrences. They have collected and spent \$140,000 and have received services worth at least \$100,000, donated by the Engineers of this Chamber. The ability to prevent the devastating crest of the flood wave by reservoirs is now through the efforts of your Commission generally accepted. One practical outcome of their work is the streets already raised on the downtown business section and the North Side; also a bill which has just passed the House of Representatives placing the question of combined state and national co-operation where it should be. I predict that in the next five or ten years this Chamber will realize that the vision of the men who started this Commission eight years ago was of the greatest import, not only to this city and state, but to the nation.

The first Trade Extension Excursion which the business men of the Chamber engaged in was to West Virginia, May 14, 1907. The first Inbound Excursion for out-of-town buyers was conducted by the Chamber, Sept. 23d to Oct. 5th, 1907.

On Nov. 5, 1907, began the effort in co-operation with the Allegheny Medical Society and the city authorities to improve the milk supply for Pittsburgh. The Chamber held several conventions of milk dealers, and the result was a higher standard of dairy maintenance and a consequent reduction of trade in impure milk.

It was in 1908 that the Chamber began its splendid efforts at co-operation with the Railroads through the Committee on Transportation and Railroads. In securing that co-operation between the shipper and the railroads, a saving of thousands of dollars in freight and securing additional freight movements were effected. Indeed, the work of the Chamber in that year was the beginning of a new day in such co-operation. The shipper sat with the representatives of the railroads in the meetings of our Transportation Committee, solving the unfortunate differences which had grown up between them. Because of this mutual co-operation it resulted in a closer reciprocity of interest, and of immense benefit to both. This was made easier by reason of the appointment in 1907 of a Traffic Manager.

On Feb. 20th, 1908, a special committee was appointed to investigate and report upon free bridges over the Allegheny River. A most exhaustive search of the law and facts relating to the charters and the franchise rights of the Sixth, Seventh, Ninth and Sixteenth Street Bridge Companies was made and printed, and sent to Council and the County Commissioners. This report and the work of the Committee had much to do with solving that difficult legal problem and giving us free bridges.

The extension of Grant Boulevard from Seventh to Sixth Avenue, the Second Avenue Improvement which you have today, reduction of the city into smaller ward units, the new sprinkling system ordinance, were all matters started by the Chamber in 1907 and 1908.

Then we should not forget our part in the Sesqui-Centennial and our especial part in one of the greatest pageants ever presented in Pittsburgh on Greater Pittsburgh Day, which the Chamber managed entirely.

In 1908 we secured the return of the "h" in Pittsburgh, having proven to the satisfaction of the Post Office authorities we were historically entitled to that distinction.

But, Mr. President, one of the crowning efforts of this Chamber of Commerce was its foundation work in 1907, continued actively in 1908, and by every President since in bringing to Pittsburgh the Bureau of Mines with its splendid record made in the last eight years in life-saving. The new buildings now going up on Forbes

Street, costing \$500,000, stand as a memorial to the kind of service a Chamber of Commerce can render, not only in behalf of mankind, but to the commerce of a state and nation.

In a letter received yesterday from the Hon. Lawson Stone, Supt. of the Bureau of Mines, he speaks of the early efforts of this organization in securing the Bureau of Mines, as follows:

"In 1908 the technologic branch of the Geological Survey had been authorized to start in a small way certain investigations relative to mine accidents and after considerable negotiation the installation of the Bureau at Pittsburgh was undertaken at the old Arsenal at Pittsburgh." He does not say that a bill introduced at the instance of our Committee on Education by Representative Burke gave the Department of Interior the right to rent from the Department of War the Arsenal grounds at \$1.00 per annum.

Supt. Stone in his letter of yesterday concludes, "It may be a matter of interest to you to know that this station of the bureau at Pittsburgh and at field stations reporting to Pittsburgh something over 200 men, the majority of whom are scientific men engaged in research and safety problems. The total expenditures through Pittsburgh for salaries, supplies, equipment and other expenses at the present time, vary between \$400,000 and \$500,000 per annum."

"I am fully cognizant of the efforts of yourself and colleagues looking toward the location of this experiment station of the Bureau of Mines in Pittsburgh, and it is a pleasure to be afforded this opportunity to acknowledge your co-operation, as well as that of other civic organizations of the city."

I believe the period of 1907 and 1908 with its splendid spirit of co-operation on the part of the members of this Chamber was a period of constructive work, with a wide vision of the future. As we look back eight years, these accomplished things visioned then should give us great pleasure. As we contemplate the things done that some men felt were too big and even visionary ever to come to fruition, we can see that the men of 1907 and 1908 were men of vision who had the faith in the future of this great organization and this great city to work out to practical completion many of the projects then started. I can say as the President of this organization in 1907 and 1908 that they were years of reorganization and of consolidation of the latent forces of this great community through this Chamber and foundations were laid for the splendid progress made up to this day and hour. It was not the work of one man but the co-operation of all the membership, the spirit which must be engendered in any organization which hopes to go forward to success.

ADDRESS OF F. R. BABCOCK,
President, Chamber of Commerce, 1910-1912.

Gentlemen of the Chamber of Commerce:

I must confess that I was just a little embarrassed when I received Mr. McKee's note, asking me to speak briefly on this occasion, of the achievements of the Chamber of Commerce during my administration, as I had never singled out these achievements as reflecting any particular credit to my administration.

My conception of the functions of the Chamber is that it should father, and promote, everything that will enhance, and conserve, the best interests of the people of the city and community without fear or favor of party politic, or selfish and personal interests.

I have often felt that if I succeeded in accomplishing anything during my incumbency, it was by being able to distinguish between subjects that were of community interest and of individual interest, the latter being presented under the guise of public questions, because I was frequently importuned to allow such matters to be introduced into the Chamber.

That, coupled with the feeling that I enjoyed the confidence and loyal support of every officer, director, member, and employe of the Chamber, made the work a pleasure, and if we achieved anything worth while, I desire to give credit where it is due.

True, we were potent factors in helping to bring about many things that will always reflect credit to the Chamber.

One of the first subjects to engage our attention, and in which we played a prominent part, was the campaign for a new Charter. Our organization not only drafted the Charter bills; it was at a public meeting held in the old City Hall on May 27, 1910, under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, that public sentiment was crystallized in favor of the so-called Pittsburgh Plan of a small Council, elected at large, as against the straight Commission Plan.

Immediately following this meeting, the Charter Committee adopted the Pittsburgh Plan, and launched a campaign for its adoption by the commercial and civic bodies of the various sections of the city.

The Chamber supported the Pittsburgh Plan Bill actively at every stage of the campaign, and sent representatives to Harrisburg when necessary. I, personally, added my feeble word, among others, on the floor of the House. During this period, the Industrial Development Commission was conceived and organized, the development of which has reflected great credit upon the Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Commission itself. In my judgment, the Board acted wisely in creating this Commission with a power unto itself, rather than holding it responsible to the Chamber. That made it possible for the Commission to enlist the support and sympathy of men of affairs that they could not otherwise have done, and the accomplish-

ments of the Commission are far beyond the comprehension of the casual observer.

They raised, by popular subscription, a fund of \$137,000 with which to carry on their work, and through their direct efforts have located in Pittsburgh thirty-six new manufacturing enterprises, employing over 8,000 workmen. Although contrary to their policy, the Commission has been instrumental in establishing credit, and rendering financial assistance to new and old enterprises of upwards of \$3,000,000, besides being a powerful factor in constantly keeping Pittsburgh's unequalled facilities, and natural resources, before the whole Nation, which has unquestionably had much to do with the fact that Pittsburgh has sprung into prominence as a Convention City.

During this period, the Committee on Free Bridges completed its three-year campaign, which resulted in the freeing of the bridges crossing the Allegheny River between Pittsburgh proper and the North Side.

The Chamber was actively interested at this time in the promotion and establishment of the Testing Laboratories of the Bureau of Mines in Pittsburgh, since resulting in the decision of the Government to make the permanent location on the eleven acres in the Schenley Park District.

It was my purpose to endeavor to interest as many members of the Chamber as possible in the work of the organization, and to this end, through amendment to the by-laws, provision was made that the standing committees might have fifteen members instead of seven, the previous limit.

A change of policy, permitted under our by-laws, whereby the Nominating Committee nominates eighteen men, with twelve to elect, was put into effect. That took the election of our directors out of the hands of a Nominating Committee of three, and put it up to the membership at large, which had the effect of stimulating interest, and vitally increased the efficiency of the Board, because only those who render efficient service can be re-elected.

We were active in the effectual organization of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. We sent to Washington a live delegation, which took with them a carefully thought out, printed plan, and after two days of deliberation on the part of the organization committee, they adopted our plan almost verbatim as the foundation for the National Chamber, which resulted in a Pittsburgher being elected on the Board of Trustees, another being made Chairman of the Credentials Committee, and a Pittsburgh lawyer appointed as their counsel.

Time will not permit me to more than refer to many of the activities of the Chamber in the study of the City Budget; the Dairy Contest conducted, bringing about a higher standard for milk supply; legislative measures advocated or defeated during the Session of 1911; the study of our Committee on Transportation and Railroads

of the Coal Rate Situation to the Lakes from the Pittsburgh District; the exhaustive report of the Flood Commission on its four years' study, rendering great service to Pittsburgh and throughout the drainage basins.

Our annual banquet, at which occurred the Taft-Littleton episode, has gone down in history as one of the greatest banquets ever held in any city. Through conditions over which we had no control the Chamber of Commerce banquets were at this time changed from the columns of the wet to the dry, demonstrating beyond peradventure of a doubt that booze and liquid refreshments were not necessary to make our annual banquets the most successful in the community.

While we had no Frederick Cooks present themselves for recognition, we were honored by many distinguished delegations from home and abroad, including the Nine Western Governors, Arkansas on Wheels, and others of equal importance, all of which were entertained in such a manner as to reflect credit to the Chamber and City.

I wish to compliment the Chamber of Commerce on this new move, through which we are to have a home of our own, and Pittsburgh will have a Chamber of Commerce Building, which is no more than the splendid work of the Chamber has merited.

I wish you God speed.

ADDRESS OF WM. H. STEVENSON,
President, Chamber of Commerce, 1912-1914.

Wm. H. Stevenson reviewed many benefits accruing to Pittsburgh citizens because of the Chamber's activities. He said in part:

In December of 1912 it was learned that a bill appropriating \$500,000 for a building for the use of the Bureau of Mines was pending in Congress.

The War Department had given notice to the Department of the Interior that it would require that portion of the Arsenal Grounds on which the testing laboratories were located. The Chamber called a conference of representatives of the City Council, the Board of Public Education (in which the title of the Magee site was vested), the City Planning Commission, the Pittsburgh Industrial Development Commission, the Bureau of Mines and the Mayor, Hon. William A. Magee.

Many meetings were held, sub-committees appointed, the subject thoroughly discussed and after overcoming almost insurmountable difficulties the Board of Education agreed to give the Magee site for the use of the Bureau of Mines, the city agreeing to pay the Board of Education \$87,000 in cash and to also transfer to the Board part of the Arsenal grounds and the property known as the

Bedford Avenue Basin. This agreement was consummated in 1913, the buildings are now in course of construction and the question as to the permanent location of the testing laboratories settled finally.

The committee on smoke abatement presented a resolution to the Chamber which was adopted, requesting that a number of organizations of the city interested in smoke abatement should be invited to meet the committee at the Chamber with a view to co-operation in this important work, the result of which was the organization of the Smoke and Dust Abatement League of Pittsburgh.

The one hundred and twenty-fifth birthday of Allegheny County was fittingly celebrated, the most unique feature of which was the largest automobile parade ever seen in Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh Flood Relief Committee collected and distributed nearly \$89,000 in addition to a large quantity of materials to victims of the Ohio floods.

A number of complaints having been received by the Chamber concerning over-charges and discrimination in the matter of local telephone rates, the Chamber of Commerce applied to the courts for an injunction restraining the telephone company from making further charges pending decision by the Public Service Commission. The injunction was granted and complaint made to the commission.

In 1914 the movement to construct the Lake Erie and Ohio River canal which was initiated by the Chamber of Commerce in 1895 and consistently and persistently advocated since that time received recognition and substantial aid from the state which granted an appropriation of \$150,000 for the purpose of making preliminary surveys of the route of the canal.

ADDRESS OF D. P. BLACK,
President, Chamber of Commerce, 1914-1916.

Mr. President and gentlemen of the Chamber of Commerce, it has been suggested that the ex-presidents of the Chamber of Commerce be called upon to tell, in a general way, what the Chamber has done or did do under the particular term or terms of office which they served.

The two terms which I had the honor of being your President are of such recent date and that you are all familiar with the work accomplished, it seems unnecessary for me to review the same at any great length or detail. I would like, however, to mention a few things which occurred during my administration. One in particular was the conception of the plan to secure the magnificent new Chamber of Commerce building for which we are going to lay the corner

stone this afternoon. For forty years the Chamber of Commerce has been struggling onward and upward toward the betterment of Pittsburgh, and when I say Pittsburgh, I mean the Greater Pittsburgh, or, in fact, Allegheny County.

It is almost beyond belief that when the Chamber of Commerce was started, Allegheny County had a population of only 262,000 people, where now it has 1,300,000, and is still growing faster than any other country in the United States of over one million people. At that time the bowels of the earth still contained the natural gas. We had no electric lights, not a single telephone, not an automobile, electric street car or cable car, (which latter has since come and gone). No plate glass was manufactured here. The great Westinghouse Air Brake and Electric Companies have come into existence since that time. Then not a single skyscraper graced our streets. Not one park (excepting the Allegheny Commons). There was not one Carnegie Library; no Memorial Hall or athletic club, Tech school or baseball park. The hump was not cut and the most of our downtown streets were flooded at least once a year. Perhaps few of that date had any conception of what Pittsburgh would be forty years hence. But if we were to predict now as to what Pittsburgh would be in forty years hence, our conclusions would seem ridiculous when being read at the corner stone laying of our next new Chamber building. It is reasonable to suppose (although it is a bold prediction to make) that we may have through routing of the street cars within the next forty years. (Young men please note.) The Ohio River and Lake Erie Ship Canal which this Chamber has had so much to do with, should have had time to prove its great value to manufacture and commerce and to have built up an almost solid string of towns from here to the Lake, putting Pittsburgh on the Great Lakes and all of the lake cities in the Mississippi Valley.

The Flood Commission should have completed their dams and lifted Pittsburgh entirely out of the flood zone, and also to conserve enough water to make the Ohio River navigable 365 days in the year.

The subways should be carrying the people from the East End and under the rivers to the North and South Sides. Pittsburgh should then be co-extensive with Allegheny County and governed by the best small council any city ever had.

In forty years the Chamber of Commerce will have been in its new building just 39 years and be looking for new and larger quarters. I believe it would be a good thing for the officers of this organization to write their predictions and put them in the corner stone of this building instead of the customary documents, just to see how near right or how far wrong they would be forty or more years hence.

Messages of regret were read by President Garland as follows:

Brick House, Noroton, Connecticut.

Dear Sir:

Your kind favor of June twenty-first has been received.

In reply Mr. Carnegie directs me to say that he regrets very much it will not be possible for him to attend the exercises in connection with the 40th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh. He is now in his eighty-first year and feels that he should conserve his strength in every possible way, but asks me to say that his heart will be with you on the occasion of the celebration.

Very truly yours,
JOHN A. POYNTON,
Secretary.

June 27th, 1916.

Robert Garland, Esq., President,
Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Tokio, Japan, July 6, 1916.

Chamber of Commerce,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Congratulations on greater opportunity for useful services. Good wishes.

GEORGE W. GUTHRIE.

Enroute to El Paso, Texas, from
Kansas City, Mo., July 7, 1916.

Logan McKee, Secretary,

Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh.

Greetings to my friends of the Chamber of Commerce. I hope your celebration of this day may not only mark a corner of a fine building but serve as a monument in commemoration of the achievements of the past and a signal of the useful and patriotic work to be accomplished for Pittsburgh.

ALBERT J. LOGAN.

New York, July 7, 1916.

Robert Garland, President,

Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh.

Telegram received. Regret that I cannot celebrate with my fellow members the laying of the corner stone owing to pressing matters keeping me here. Two important events during my executive incumbency—freeing of locks of Monongahela River and obtaining new City charter. Hoping weather may be ideal and with best wishes.

JOHN BINDLEY.

Upon motion by Mr. Marcus Rauh, the following telegram was sent to General Albert J. Logan:

PITTSBURGH, PA., July 8, 1916.

GENERAL ALBERT J. LOGAN,

Second Brigade, N. G. of Pennsylvania,
El Paso, Texas.

The Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh assembled in earnest session

prior to the laying of the corner stone of our new building, thanks you for your timely telegram and extends to you and the Pittsburgh Boys under you every good wish.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ROBERT GARLAND, President.

INVOCATION AT LAYING OF CORNER STONE OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, Fountain of Grace, Bestower of Life, Creator, Preserver, and Bountiful Benefactor. We bow before Thy Majesty and adore Thee in the infinitude of Thy Being and in the Multitude of Thy Mercies.

As we are assembled for the significant ceremony of this hour, we invoke Thy Presence with us and Thy Blessing upon us. We acknowledge Thy undeserved Favor and the Constancy of Thy Care and Goodness toward us. Because Thou art, we are; and in Thee only do we live and work and achieve and enjoy.

Bless, we beseech Thee, our City and all its Interests, Institutions and People. Remember the Mayor, the Council, the Heads of Departments and All who exercise Influence and Authority.

Bless this day, O God, the Men of Pittsburgh who create and direct the great Commercial, Banking, Manufacturing, Industrial, and other Concerns of our Community, and all those associated with them in any capacity and who contribute in any measure to the Productiveness, Usefulness, and Prosperity of our people. Bless, too, the Commercial, Labor, and other Associations whose purpose is the Social, Moral and Economic well-being of the People.

Especially we pray Thee, that Thy Blessing may rest upon the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh, upon its President, its Board of Directors, its Membership, and its Work. And as now the Cornerstone of this Building is laid, to bear the name and house the activities of this Chamber, wilt Thou let Thy Benediction rest upon the Act we perform and the Purpose we serve, to the end that in its new home, the Chamber of Commerce may highly prosper and render to all the interests of the Community, Commercial, Industrial, Economic, Social, Educational, and Religious, such useful and increasingly effective service as may enable it to accomplish in fullest measure the purpose for which forty years ago it was called into Being.

Remember our Commonwealth and Nation. Bless the President of the United States in this time of Stress and guide him in the duties of his high office. Remember, too, the nations across the sea, and in Thy Way and Time establish Peace throughout the World, and Justice and Righteousness everywhere, that Men may find the Joy of Life in Service and in Love.

And to Thee, O God, will we ascribe the Praise and Glory, forever. Amen.

President Garland then introduced United States Senator George T. Oliver. Mr. Garland said:

During the 40 years of its chartered existence, the Chamber of Commerce has been housed in but three locations. From 1876 to 1904, or for 28 years, in the Germania Bank Building on Wood street, for four years in the Gazette Times Building at Wood street and Oliver avenue, and for the past eight years on the sixteenth floor of the Keenan Building.

It is my great privilege to present to you one of our most honored citizens whose conception it was to plan and erect the splendid building that will be constructed upon this site and which will be known as the Chamber of Commerce Building.

It might be fitting to state that when, 40 years ago today the Chamber of Commerce was incorporated, the name of Oliver appears twice among the 47 petitioners for the charter, once in the old firm of Lewis, Oliver & Phillips, established in 1864, now doing business as the Oliver Iron and Steel Co., and again in the name of the late Henry W. Oliver, Jr.—I present to you Senator George T. Oliver.

SENATOR OLIVER SPEAKS ON VITAL WORK OF FUTURE.

During the laying of the corner stone of the new Chamber of Commerce home, United States Senator George T. Oliver said:

When the Chamber of Commerce was organized 40 years ago I had already been practicing five years at the Allegheny county bar. During most of its existence I have been a member of the Chamber. For a short time I was one of its directors. In an editorial capacity I have sometimes criticized its management, occasionally for things done, oftener for what I considered things left undone; but from the day when Hon. Thomas M. Howe took the gavel as its first president I have never for a moment doubted the sincerity of those who from time to time were entrusted with its direction, or failed to appreciate the intense local patriotism by which they were actuated. I have at times wished that the scope of the organization might be broadened—that both its membership and its revenues could be so increased that it could take cognizance of many matters vital to our prosperity, but from which it has heretofore been debarred by reason of its limitations. That wish is now to be accomplished. With its entry into a home commensurate with its dignity and with the increase of membership which will surely follow, our Chamber of Commerce will be the peer of any cognate organization throughout the land, and will enter on a career of usefulness broad beyond the dreams of its founders.

I cannot within my allotted time enlarge upon the new fields of duty to which the Chamber will be called. I will only allude briefly to one or two of the most insistent of these duties. Perhaps

the most important of all is to further the establishment of new small industries in our midst. At present our prosperity is largely dependent upon units comparatively small in number, but each of great magnitude in itself. It is natural for us to be proud of these mammoth plants which have spread our fame throughout the world, but by reason of their very immensity, when hard times strike us the entire community is prostrated. It would be much better if our industrial output could be divided into smaller units. Any community will be better off with 100 establishments, each one of them giving work to 100 men, than with one great plant employing 20,000 men. In the first place the aggregate wages earned by the 10,000 men in the smaller establishments will in all probability be greater than the earnings of double the number in the larger one, for the men in the first will necessarily have a higher degree of skill and will earn a far greater amount per man than the common laborers who necessarily constitute the great majority of the men employed in the larger plant. And what is far more important, greater skill means greater intelligence, and greater intelligence means better citizenship. In the interest, therefore, of good citizenship, as well as with a view to the perpetuation of our prosperity, we should work with all the force that is in us for a diversification of the industries of our city.

But to attract new industries to any community these inducements must be offered: reasonable freight rates, cheap homes, low rents, low taxation. I have always contended that Pittsburgh manufacturers are paying excessive rates for the transportation of their commodities, especially their raw material. It has been a source of wonder to me that the great, brainy men who control the railroads entering our city have not perceived that it is to their interest, as well as to ours, to build up our industries by reducing these rates. I am convinced that they can be made to see this if the matter is properly, persistently and insistently presented to them. I believe that the result we seek can be more easily obtained through persuasive argument than by adverse proceedings; but by whatever means accomplished it should be done—and it seems to me that it is the duty of the Chamber of Commerce to use unceasing efforts to that end. I cannot believe that this duty will be shirked.

Cheap homes and low rents can only be obtained through low taxation, and low taxation can be brought about only by rousing every citizen to a sense of his political duties.

All these subjects, and many others, come within the purview of the Chamber's duties. That the duties will be faithfully performed, I have not the slightest doubt; but the Chamber must be sustained in its efforts. It must be sustained not only by money, but by men. In the sphere of its greater activities more men—more individuals—must take an interest in its doings than in the past. Our men of affairs must not be content with enrolling themselves as members; they must also give up a little of their time for the public welfare.

Every industrial or commercial establishment in our midst, large or small, should detail at least one man connected with it, not simply to hold a membership in the Chamber, but to participate in its activities. No prosperous man owes his prosperity to himself alone. A part of it at least is due to the community in which he lives, and in return he is in duty bound to render some service to the community. No better way of performing a duty like this can be found than for a man to give a part of his time and thought to such public organizations as the Chamber of Commerce. Let us hope that our business men—our big business men—will find time to turn aside for awhile from their engrossing private interests in order to aid in the upbuilding of this great public institution—the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce.

ADDRESS OF MR. EDWARD F. TREFZ, OF CHICAGO,
FIELD SECRETARY OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Mr. President and Members of the
Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh.

While marching in the parade from the Fort Pitt Hotel to this place the thought occurred to me that this must be the most significant procession that has marched upon the streets of your city in a half century. These men who took part in the parade represent the combined wealth in industry and trade greater than that of the entire county when the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh was organized. The route of your parade lay along the pathway lined by business houses and financial institutions representing a combined wealth greater than that totaled by the entire nation when Washington delivered his farewell address.

That this event is of more than ordinary importance is indicated by the gradual recognition that is being reluctantly granted to the business men of this country. It is a singular fact, and yet lamentably true that of the forces of society, business has been considered of less moment than others. Yet we cannot have a civilization without business, nor can we live upon the tool products of the earth, or by the creature comforts of society, without strength from the genius of the business lives. As soon as a man manufactures a tool with which to make the earth produce more prolifically he enters upon manufacturing. As soon as a man lays a pathway between his hut and the hut of his neighbor he enters upon transportation. Behind every school-house and university, every church and hospital, every institution that makes for the culture of the heart and the head, stands the business man who is really the burden bearer of civilization, who pays the greater share of the expenses

in the conduct of government and the promotion of prosperity. Our progress as a nation has been more largely due to the genius of business than to any other source.

This Chamber of Commerce was organized 40 years ago. At that time St. Louis was the outpost of our western civilization. One railroad track wound its way along the plains and mountains of the far Pacific. In that vast territory leaning against the great mountains there was scarcely a habitation save the hut of the trapper and the tent of the savage. In the two score years of the life of this organization more than 27,700 cities, towns and villages have been established. In the lifetime of this Chamber of Commerce the wealth of the nation has increased at the rate of \$250,000 every hour for every hour in the 24, or \$70 every time the clock ticks; it has become the granary of the whole world; it performs one-third of the world's mining, and it holds one-sixteenth of the world's population, and does one-sixth of the world's manufacturing. In the 40 years of this Chamber's history we have built industrially so rapidly that today we control one-half of the tool power of the entire world, and yet to boast only of our wealth and our industrial progress would be of poor requital for the efforts and sacrifices of those who have accomplished so much.

In this land of democracy our duty primarily is not to be this or that sort of manufacturer or trader, but first of all we are citizens of a republic. Our chiefest work is not to build a large institution or industry or trade, but to manufacture souls of a good quality that shall perpetuate a nation and fortify against dissolution and internal dissension. To this end the Chamber of Commerce gives the business men a tremendous opportunity for living and making a better civilization. Cities are the habitation of the human. Without the laughter of children and voices of women and the footfalls of men the great industrial and financial institutions of Pittsburgh would have no more significance than would be the powder that blew them into nothings.

The efforts of men along industrial and commercial lines is toward a racial immortality. Unless we have wrought that which is to make civilization just a bit better we have failed no matter how much of the material we have accomplished. To this Chamber of Commerce comes the responsibility of directing and leading in the work of building a city. Because the city is the habitation of the human we construct along a three-fold line of human personalities, which is comprehensive of the intellect, the sensibilities and the will, and he who is great of hand, of heart and of head towers among his fellows. And so in developing a city we must create first our industrial life. Senator Oliver spoke words that were axiomatic and prophetic. Pittsburgh shall profit more by having a large number of diversified interests than by one or a few great establishments built for manufacture. That city is fortunate which has many units of manufacture because it is not reasonable to suppose that all of them will be affected alike by any one single epi-

sode or discouragement or calamity. Yet we must understand that these institutions are built by the human and because man is half Heaven and half Earth, half human and half divine, he must have open space in which to breathe at times and the domed heavens under which to play. Your parks and playgrounds are as good an asset as your mills and factories. The future courage and loyalty that won your nation's battles in time of war is first exhibited and developed in the contests and sports on the playgrounds of the nation. Wellington's statement that the battles of England were won on the foot-ball field of Eaton well applies to American life. Bread is an essential fact in living but we are not to forget in the building of a city that man cannot live by bread alone. Having taken care of the hand and heart side of life, let us remember that we shall pass on and others shall enter into our labors. We are building for the future and we must turn the citizenship of the future to care for that which we have. Guard well your public schools, your universities, your colleges, so that each boy and girl in the confines of your city has the equipment for the battles of life that they shall be called upon to fight.

Then it shall be your duty also as the Chamber of Commerce to teach men the true meaning of American citizenship and what the fundamentalities of the Republic mean. When the Pilgrim Fathers landed on the bleak shores of New England without the consent of the corporation that owned the territory or knowledge of the government that gave franchise to that corporation, they established as a foundation stone of the nation a series of ideas that turned the channels of civilization. In the compact signed in the cabin of the Mayflower was the idea that led to the Declaration of Independence, wrote the Constitution of the United States, the Emancipation Declaration of Lincoln and turned the guns of Dewey at Manila. Upon these principles is founded the integrity of the nation that every man under the flag shall have equal opportunities before the law. To teach these seems to be the immediate need and duty of the Chamber of Commerce, and we must teach men that liberty does not mean license. We must teach them that free speech does not mean incendiary speech. We must teach them that the integrity of a nation is not built by the passage of many laws but by the development of the morals of its people. Our trust in law has become so great and so blind that by reason of that very confidence we are likely to enter into an epoch of fear and anxiety. For the past few years, we have almost run amuck in the making of laws. Great Britain in ten years, for the regulation and control of the Empire, has passed a little more than 1,800 laws. In this country in five years, in our state and national legislative bodies, we have passed 62,550 laws. Is it any wonder the people of Turkey believe we are a nation of crooks? Men have been laughing at China for many years, but China continually survives. It is the oldest of the nations and it has preserved its integrity throughout the

centuries. When the prophet in rapt mood pronounced maledictions upon Ur and descended into Egypt, China was old. When Damascus placidly rested in the twilight of the ages, China was old. Nations came and went in Chaldea, Babylon and Assyria, but China lived. It was when Greece reached the golden age of Pericles and Rome conducted the world's affairs for seven hundred years, China lived. Ask the philosopher why this wonderful preservation of integrity has taken place and he will tell you that it was because man lived the law rather than enacted many rules and rubrics. For six thousand years China has taught her boys and girls not to lie and not to steal, and these are the corner stones of China's age-long history. With all the laws we have passed, we still have our troubles, yet God Almighty has been reasonably successful in conducting the entire universe with only ten laws. Let us teach man that we cannot develop the one talent man to the standard of the ten talent man by the passage of the law. Teach them that whosoever the confines of life, power and fame lead, we will find the ten talent man. If it is the avenue of war, you will find a Hannibal, Caesar or Napoleon. If it is the avenue of religion, you will find a Richileu or Mazarin. If it is the avenue of finance or invention, you will find a Rothschild or an Edison. Turn the Republic into a socialistic state today and tomorrow the ten talent man will be establishing the principles of its government. It seems wrong and still it may be modified but cannot be changed by any law of man for it is an act of God that should enable Melba to secure \$1,000 for a song, while the woman in the sweat shop receives only fifteen cents for making a shirt. It can only be changed when every woman in America is given the voice of a Melba and only to one is left the genius of making a shirt. The best that we can do is to keep the race track open so that the sway-backed mule can enter upon the track against the pedigreed Kentucky gelding and win the race if it may, but by no act of law can you change the pedigree of the mule or the gelding.

Let us teach man that the wastral and waster, the idle and thriftless, shall, under no just government receive the same emoluments and compensation accorded to the energetic, thrifty and the industrious. Let us keep this equality open before the law intact for in thus doing, we will make the nation perpetual. This is a splendid day for Pittsburgh because this is a wonderful hour in which to be a business man, but greater even than this is that splendid honor involving potential responsibility, the honor of being an American citizen.

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